



M A G M A C O P P E R C O M P A N Y

Rec'd  
12/14/95

FLORENCE PROJECT

November 30, 1995

Mr. Jose Luis Gutierrez  
Environmental Engineer W-6-2  
Environmental Protection Agency  
Region 9  
75 Hawthorne Street  
San Francisco, California 94105-3901

Subject: Requested Drawings of Ponds For Section 7 Consultation Analysis

Dear Mr. Gutierrez:

Attached is Figure 1.1-1 (V) entitled "Facility Components" which shows the location of all impoundments and the North Canal. You will note that we have added an irrigation water storage pond, which when coupled with the North Canal and Central Arizona Project (CAP) Canals, will give area water fowl an alternative landing site to the process ponds.

The second drawing included is the general arrangement (DWG D-50-211-001 ) for the cells of the evaporation/tailings pond and the third drawing (DWG D-00-226-009) shows the sprayers floating on the ponds to aid in evaporative loss. The purpose of the sprayers is to minimize the footprint of the disturbance for the ponds.

As I mentioned before, there have been no ponds in the copper leaching industry that I know of that nets ponds from birds. Several of the most recent Environmental Impact Study/Environmental Assessment (EIS/EA) evaluations, including Sanchez in Safford, Arizona, the Santa Cruz Joint Venture In-situ (EA, U.S. Bureau of Mines), Magma's Robinson Mine in Nevada (EIS, Bureau of Land Management), and the Cyprus Tohono Open Pit Mine (EIS, Bureau of Land Management) have all, to my knowledge, undergone Section 7 Consultations. All of these have similar ponds and none have found netting necessary. Basically, this is because bird mortality has not been a problem. The adjacent sources of the North Canal, the CAP Canal located a mile to the north of the site, and the siting of the irrigation water recharge pond yields at least three good alternatives for bird landing sites. The presence of the sprayers should also act as a deterrent to any landings. Birds landing on heap or dump leach pads where spraying of similar solutions is occurring also has not been a problem. I believe the sprays act as a deterrent.

Not sure that  
any one op  
isn't checked but  
contact  
W F & W  
Hess.

didn't receive this DWG.

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I trust that this information will be sufficient. Please call if you need more information. Again, your help in this matter is appreciated.

Sincerely,



John T. Kline

Environmental Project Manager

JTK:kw

Enclosures

cc: Mr. Dan Ramey, Magma Copper Company